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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/724,250	11/26/2003	Randy L. Allee	WK/2003-15/US	1620

7590

07/21/2006

WARD KRAFT, INC.
P.O. BOX 938
FORT SCOTT, KS 66701

EXAMINER

PASCUA, JES F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3727

DATE MAILED: 07/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/724,250

Applicant(s)

ALLEE, RANDY L.

Examiner

Jes F. Pascua

Art Unit

3727

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 18-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 and 21-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/4/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 12, 13 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 12 and 13, it is unclear if applicant is claiming the intermediate sheet of material as set forth in claims 1 and 11 or the final pocket. Applicant is requested to clarify the scope of the claimed invention.

In claim 17, the structure of the "first and second strips of adhesive" have not been defined to warrant the language "another of said first and second strips of adhesive".

Claim 17 is indefinite for failing to further limit the structure of the claim from which it depends.

For the purposes of examination, claims 12, 13 and 17 will be considered as method of use claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

Art Unit: 3727

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,837,565 to Johnsen.

Johnsen discloses a sheet of material capable of receiving printing having first and second faces, first and second transversely extending edges and first and second longitudinally extending edges. The sheet of material includes first and second strips of adhesive disposed adjacent the first and second transversely extending edges and first and second adhesive strips disposed adjacent the first and second longitudinally extending edges. Each of the first and first and second strips of adhesive has first and second edges. The adhesive strips include first lines of weakness T1 along a first edge and second lines of weakness T2 that run perpendicular the first lines of weakness between the first and second edges separating the strips of adhesive into first and second sections. The sheet of material includes a fold line S between the first and second extending edges, which runs parallel with the second line of weakness T2 to form first and second sections. When the sheet of material is folded along the fold line S and the first and second strips of adhesive are sealed to each other, a pocket is formed.

The configuration of the Johnsen sheet of material in Fig. 4 shows one of the first and second sections having a greater length than the other section.

In Fig. 5, Johnsen shows the lengths of the first and second sections being substantially equal.

Regarding claims 12, 13 and 17, it has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations.

5. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,434,097 to Conner. See Figs. 5-7.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-7, 11-17, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,415,976 to Flynn et al.

Fig. 1 of Flynn et al. discloses a sheet of material 12 capable of receiving printing. The sheet of material has first and second faces, first and second transversely extending edges and first and second longitudinally extending edge. First and second strips of adhesive 44 are disposed adjacent first and second edges of the sheet of material. Each of the first and second adhesive strips have a first edge that is collinear with the adjacent first and second edges of the sheet of material. Each of the first and second strips of adhesive have a second edge defined by a first line of weakness 52.

Art Unit: 3727

Extending to the first line of weakness and between the first and second edges of the first and second adhesive strips is a second line of weakness, which is part of the assembly shape 20 that allows separation of the adhesive strips from the sheet of material. The sheet of material further includes a fold line 32 running between the first and second extending edges to define first and second panels 22, 24 (or first panel 22, 30 and second panel 24) to form a pocket along with the first and second strips of adhesive.

However, Flynn et al. does not show the second line of weakness extending perpendicular to the first line of weakness. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to make the second line of weakness in Flynn et al. perpendicular to the first line of weakness or of whatever form or shape was desired or expedient. A change in form or shape is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art, absent any showing of unexpected results.

Regarding claims 12, 13 and 17, it has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations.

Regarding claims 21 and 22, Fig. 3 of Flynn et al. discloses holes 84, which permit the pocket to be attached to a document containment device, such as a ring binder.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 18-20 are allowed.

Conclusion

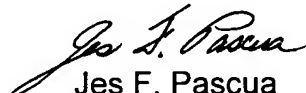
9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

10. Applicant is duly reminded that a complete response must satisfy the requirements of 37 C.F. R. 1.111, including: "The reply must present arguments pointing out the specific distinctions believed to render the claims, including any newly presented claims, patentable over any applied references. A general allegation that the claims "define a patentable invention" without specifically pointing out how the language of the claims patentably distinguishes them from the references does not comply with the requirements of this section. Moreover, "The prompt development of a clear Issue requires that the replies of the applicant meet the objections to and rejections of the claims." Applicant should also specifically point out the support for any amendments made to the disclosure. See MPEP 2163.06 II(A), MPEP 2163.06 and MPEP 714.02. The "disclosure" includes the claims, the specification and the drawings.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jes F. Pascua whose telephone number is 571-272-4546. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J. Newhouse can be reached on 571-272-4544. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Jes F. Pascua
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3727

JFP